## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1 This case originated at	BUREAU		BG <b>M</b>	
report made at	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY	
NEW YORK	7/14/53	7/9-11,13,14/53	RICHARD L. DELP	
CECIL BLOUNT DE MILLE			CHARACTER OF CASE  SPECIAL INQUIRY - STATE DEPART- MENT, PUBLIC LAW 402, 80th CONGRESS (VOICE OF AMERICA)	
Synopsis of facts:				
Mr. DE MILLE: employment CHARLES FROHMAN Co.; DANIEL FROHMAN Co.; Mrs. HENRY C. DE MILLE Play Brokers, Inc.; DAVID BELASCO; JESSE L. LASKY; all in New York from 1899 to 1912, verified by associates. Associates recommend highly regarding character, reputation, associates, and loyalty to United States. Derogatory information pertaining to Mr. DE MILLE's nieces, New York City, set forth. Credit records reflect no New York City trade, but containes news clipping re tax lititation in 1935. No criminal record New York City.				
RUC				
REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Los Angeles dated 7/7/53.				
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED				
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U. B. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-2

DETAILS:

#### Education

American Academy of Dramatic Arts 245 West 52nd Street, New York City

MARIE MEYER, Business Manager, American Academy of Dramatic Arts, advised that records reflected Mr. de MILLE nad attended that institute for two six month semesters from 1899 to 1900. She stated that the information contained on the record was limited to the above and that there was no one who would recall Mr. de MILLE.

## Emp Loyment

CHARLES CONKLIN, Bookkeeper, The Lambs Club, 130
West 44th Street, New York City, stated that CHARLES FROHMAN,
DAVID FROHMAN and DAVID BELASCO had been members of that
club during the period Mr. de MILLE was an active member
and that they are all dead. He stated that he believes JESSE
L. LASKY is now living in Hollywood, California. He further
advised that although Mr. de MILLE is still a member of that
club, he, Mr. de MILLE, has not been an active member since
1917.

CONRAD NAGEL and JAMES E. MEIGHAN, both members of the Lambs Club advised, when interviewed at the Lambs Club, that Mr. de MILLE nad been associated with CHARLES FROHMAN, DANIEL FROHMAN, his mother, Mrs. HENRY C. de MILLE, DAVID BELASCO, and JESSE L. LASKY in New York City from about 1899 to 1912 at which time he moved to Hollywood, California. They stated that, although they had not been associated with Mr. de MILLE during the period of his employment in New York City, they believed it was common knowledge that Mr. de MILLE had been employed as set forth above.

Mr. NAGEL stated that he had started acting in moving pictures under the direction of Mr. de MILLE in 1920 and that he has known him as a personal friend and business associate since that time. He stated that he has met Mr. de MILLE'S brother, WILLIAM C. de MILLE and other members of Mr. de MILLE'S family occasionally during the time he was in California.

Mr. MEIGHAN stated that he had met Mr. de MILLE about 1915 and that his brother, Thomas Meighan, had worked with Mr. de MILLE for many years. He stated that he had met Mr. de MILLE'S brother on a few occasions but did not know other members of Mr. de MILLE'S family.

Mr. NAGEL and Mr. MEIGHAN both advised that Mr. de MILLE was respected by everyone who knew him and that he is a man of strong convictions. They stated that Mr. de MILLE has fought the Communist infiltration of the Film Industry for years and is completely loyal to the United States. They stated that they were not close associates of Mr. de MILLE'S family and did not know Mr. de MILLE'S nieces who reside in New York City.

Mr. NAGEL and Mr. MEIGHAN advised that they did not know how close Mr. de MILLE was to members of his family and that they had never discussed politics with the members of Mr. de MILLE'S family. They stated that it was their opinion that Mr. de MILLE and members of his family were all loyal United States citizens and that they had never heard anything to make them think otherwise.

Miss GLORIA SWANSON, 920 5th Avenue, New York City, advised that she had gone to work for Mr. de MILLE in 1917 and has been a close friend and business associate of his since that time. She stated that she thought it was common knowledge in the theatrical world that Mr. de MILLE during the early 1900's was associated with CHARLES FROHMAN, DANIEL FROHMAN, Mrs. HENRY C. de MILLE, DAVID BELASCO and JESSE L. LASKY.

Miss SWANSON stated that she realized the threat to the United States by the Communist Party as early as 1937 and that she has been fighting the Communists since that time. She stated that because of her concern regarding Communism she maintained a careful watch of her associates and soon learned who were loyal Americans. She stated Mr. de MILLE was a loyal American and that she would nightly recommend Mr. de MILLE for a position of trust.

Miss SWANSON advised that one has met Mr. de MILLE'S brother and children on a few occasions when one was in California but that one had not discussed politics with them. She stated one believed they, Mr. de MILLE'S family were loyal Americans because on had never heard anything unfavorable concerning them and because Mr. de MILLE was completely loyal. Miss SWANSON stated that one had formed the opinion that there was a feelingoff professional jealousy between Mr. de MILLE and his brother and that because of this Mr. de MILLE was not very closely associated with his brother or his brother's family.

LOIS WILSON, Radio and Television Actress, when interviewed at the nome of Miss GLORIA SWANSON advised that she has known Mr. de MILLE casually since about 1919 and that she had worked with Mr. de MILLE'S brother at different times. She stated that she believes Mr. de MILLE and his brother are not as close as most brothers and that she believes they have conflicting personalities. She stated that she did not know any of the other members of Mr. de MILLE'S family. She stated that she has never discussed politics with Mr. de MILLE or his brother but that she believed them to be loyal Americans because of their reputations.

Doctor MARION STRANAHAN, MD, who specializes in psychiatry, 222 West 9th Street, New York Oity, advised that she treated Mrs. MARGARET de MILLE KAPLAN for a period of about three years. She stated Mrs. KAPLAN is a niece of Mr. CECIL B. de MILLE but that she does not believe Mrs. KAPLAN is closely associated with Mr. de MILLE. She stated that Mrs. KAPLAN had been ill but that she was cured now. She stated that she had never met Mr. de MILLE and that Mrs. KAPLAN rarely spoke of Mr. de MILLE. She stated that she did not know AGNES de MILLE PRUDE who is Mrs. KAPLAN'S sister.

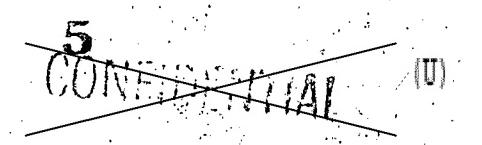
Mr. CARLTON L. FISHEL, Trifari, Krussman, and Fishel, 16 East 40th Street, New York City, advised that he is acquainted with Mrs. MARGARET de MILLE KAPLAN but that he has never met Mrs. KAPLAN Susister, AGNES PRUDE or other members of her family. He stated that Mrs. KAPLAN had remarked that her uncle was CECIL B. de MILLE but that she had never mentioned anything concerning Mr. de MILLE other than their relationship. He stated that he believed Mrs. KAPLAN is a person of good character, reputation, associates and loyalty.

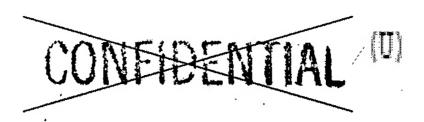


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AUSTIN KEDUGH, Chief, Legel Counsel, Paramount Pictures Theatres Corporation, 1501 Broadway, advised SA JOHN F. TUTTLE, JR. that he has known and has been closely associated with Mr. de MillE since approximately 1921. He stated he is a man of excellent character and reputation and a thoroughly loyal and intensaly patriotic American citizen. He is a man of great ability, a widely read and an intelligent person who has made a success in the banking and real estate field as well as in the motion picture industry. He advised that Mr. de MICLE is a strong and ressonable man and one whom he would recommend for any position involving trust and confidence. Mr. KEOUGH savised that he is sequeinted with Mr. de MILLE's wife and brother, WILLIAM. He edvised that they are of good reputation and nothing has ever come to als attention that would reflect unfavorably upon them in any manner. He stated that he was mainly acquainted with WILLIAM de MILLE when he, de MILLE, was in the movie inquetry about ten or fifteen years ago, but has not had too much contact with him since that time. He edvised that he is not acquainted with WILLIAM de MILLETS two daughters. He stated that Mr. CECIL B. do MILLE was formerly associated with DAVID BELASCO, a number of years ego in New York on the legitimate stage, but since that time hes confined his efforts to the motion picture inquetry in California.

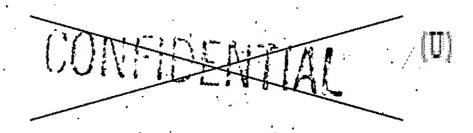
Mr. \*DOLPH ZUKOR, Chairman of the Board, Paramount Plotures Theatres Corporation, 1501 Broadway, advised SA JOHN P. TUTTLE, Jr. that he has been ecqueinted with Mr. de MILLE for the pest forty years. He is an outstanding and successful businessman, a credit to his profession and a credit to enything which he undertakes. He is a responsible, competent men of unusual ability, a completely loyal American citizen and a person who takes great interest in civic effeirs. Mr. 2UKOR edvised that he is acquainted with Mr. de MILLE's family and stated that they are people of good character and reputation. He advised that Mr. de MILLE's brother, WILLIAM de MILLE, has two daughters and he know them years ago when they were children, but has no present knowledge of them, other than the fact that they reside in New York. Mr. ZUKOR advised that from his knowledge and association with Mr. CECIL B. do MILLE he can highly recommend him to any





position involving trust and confidence. He stated that he has never heard of anything that would reflect unfavorably upon any member of Mr. do MILLE's family.

Mr. JACK MARTIN, Secretary to United States Sensor ROBERT A. TAFT, was located at the New York Hospital, 525 East 68th Street, where Senstor TAFT is recuperating from a recent operation, advised SA JOHN P. TUTTLE, Jr. that Senstor TAFT's doctors have advised him to cease all business activity and therefore, it would not be possible to interview Senstor TAFT.



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MY 123-10041

## MISCELLAN LOUS

American rederation of Television and Radio Artists, 15 West his Street, New York City, edvised that Mr. deMILLE is a member not in good standing, of that union. They stated that Mr. deMILLE had been a member of that union since Pebruary 13, 1939, but had been a member not in good standing since 1944 when Mr. deMILLE had refused to pay a union assessment of one dollar. They stated the State of California Legislature in 1944 attempted to pass a bill which would outlaw closed union shops. They stated the union was fighting the bill and had assessed all members one dollar to obtain money for legal council. They stated Mr. deMILLE did not approve of the assessment and had refused to pay it. They stated that Mr. deMILLE is a man of strong principles and his trouble with the union would not reflect unfavorable regarding his character.

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, edvised

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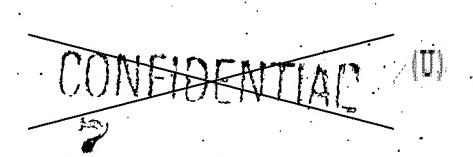
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advised

concerning the National Jouncil of merican Soviet Friendship's work were made and among other things, the formation of a dence committee under the leadership of one AGNUS deMILLE, not further ideatified, was ennounced.

Confidential Informant 7-2, of known reliability, advised

Operator, 25 Hast 9th Street, New York City, who has been in this position for twelve years, advised that Mrs. ANNA GEORGE deNILLE and her daughters, MARGARET deNILLE and AONES deMILLE, resided at this address until Mrs. ASNA GEORGE deMILLE died. He stated that AGNES deMILLE and her husband, WALTER PRUDE, are presently tenants of this building.



Confidential Informant T-3. of known reliability, advised

T-3 also advised that

Condidential Informant T-h. of known reliability, advised

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It is to be noted that the National Council of American Soviet Friendship has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

On March 3, 1945, the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade had an ad published in the "New York Times" entitled, "For America's Sake Break with Franco Spain." Among the individuals listed who sponsored and supported this statement, was one AGNES DEMILLE.

It is to be noted that the Abraham Lincoln Brigade has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Confidential Informant T-5. of known reliability, advised

Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised that a function was to be held at the Ziegfield Theater on April 27, 1947, called "Dance Saluto to the Spanish Republicans in Exile." T-6 indicated that this was a function of the

Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, advised in June, 1948, that the Spanish Refugee Appeal is the name used by the Joint Inti Jascist Refugee Committee.

The Joint Anti Pascist Refugee Committee has been declared by the Attorney General to be within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Considential Informant T-8, of known reliability, advised that at a dinner held under the suspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, in honor of the "panish Republicans in Exile and Their Staunch .merican Friends"

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In the September 26, 1949 issue of the "Daily Worker" an East Coast Communist newspaper, appears an article captioned "Spanish Refugee appeal Dance Pestival, October 5." This article reflects that "twelve leading interpreters of the modern dance will appear at the 4th annual dance festival at Carnegie Hall, Wednesday, October 5, it was announced yesterday by JOHN MARTIN, Chairman of the annual event sponsored by the Spanish Refugee Appeal Committee." Among the names of the artists who will perform was listed one AGNES DeMILLE, not further identified.

Confidential Informant T-9, or known reliability, advised that records of the "The Challenge" newspaper, reflect that among those in the New York are who might possibly be interested in contributing money to said newspaper

Confidential Informant T-10, of known reliability, a former responsible official of The Challenge" newspaper, advised that the publication was dominated by the Communist Party.

The April 3, 1952, edition of the "Daily Morker" contained an article entitled, "Dancers Protest Sending of City Ballet to Franco Spain. Top Dancers and Choreographers Have Joined Almost 200 Professionals in the Arts and Theater arts Urging Mayor Impelliteri in His Capacity as President of the City Conter to Cancel the Forthcoming Goodwill Engagement of the New York City Ballet in Barcelona, Spain, the First Stop in a Tour of Western Europe."

The article continues, "the signers declared that this cultural overture in the name of New York City toward the only surviving partner of Mither and Mussolini is unthinkable. Franco Spain is still a land of pascism, a land of religious persecution and of poverty and a stultified culture. Shall we

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now abandon the tradition established by great artists such as Toscannini, Martha, Graham and Casslas, when they refused to perform in Wasi Germany and Pascist Italy?". Among signers of this protest was one ACMAS de MILLS, not further identified.

Contidential Informent T-11. of known reliability.

Hourd of Elections for Westchester County, white Alaims, New York, as reviewed by SA JAMES E. GO: DON reflected the following information concerning MARGARET de MILLE KAPLAR:

Year	Residence	Party Proference
1952	110 Maple Avenue, New Hochelle, New York	One of the two major political parties.
1951	110 Maple Avenue, New Rockelle, New York	one of the two major political parties.
1950	110 Maple Avenue, New Rochelle, New York	One of the two major political parties.
1949	110 Maple Avenue, Hew Acchelle, Hew York	Liberal Party.
1948	110 Maple Avenue, New Rochelle, New York	One of the two major political parties. Heflected last voted in 1947 from 1956 west 74th Street, New York City.
1947	158 West 74th Street	Liberal Party
1946	156 West /4th Street	American Labor Party. Indicated last registered in 1945 while residing at 25 sast Ninth Street, New York City.
1945	25 Sast Winth Street	One of the two major

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political parties.

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Year	Revidence	Party Profesence
1944	25 anst Winth Street	one of the two major political parties.
1943	25 Sept Winth Street	merican Labor Farty.
1942	25 mast Winth Street	one of the two major political parties.
1941	25 Last Math Street	one of the two major political parties.
1940	25 hast minth Street	Mank. Indicated that she last registered in 1934 in tes registered in 1934 in

The "Gulds to Subversive Organisations and Publications" deted March 3, 1951, prepared and released by the Committee on un-american Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D. G., contains the following concerning the American Labor Party:

## "American Labor Farty

offerts to capture the entire merican Labor Party throughout New York State. They succeeded in capturing the Hanhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party but Outside of New York City they have been unable to win control. (Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Pepert, March 29, 1944, Page 78.)

"2. Among 'organizations that are victims of Communist Communities on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, Pages 40 and 41.)"

Reliable confidential informants, who have a knowledge of some of the Communist Party activities in the New York Sity area, advised that AGALL deMILLS FIVLY and MARGARET deMILLS KAPLAN were unknown to them.

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### CREDIT

The files of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York were checked and Special Employee RICHARD F. O'HARA was advised that there was no New York trade listed concerning Mr. CECIL B. de NILLE but that there was an article in the New York Times dated February 1, 1935, furnished by the Associated Press, Washington, D.C., which disclosed that CECIL B. de MILLE was upheld by the Board of Tax Appeals today in his fight against Treasury Tax Claims exceeding \$1,500,000.00. Internal Revenue Bureau had claimed \$1,186,317.00 was owed by CECIL B. de MILLE Production, Incorporated for accumulating surplusses beyond reasonable needs of business to avoid surtax by stock holders. Contended de MILLE owed \$189,487.00 but tax board agreed with DE MILLE that wife's earnings should not be included.

### CRIMINAL

The files of the New York City Police Department were checked and SA AUGUST J. MICEK was advised that there was no record for CECIL B. de MILLE or any member of his family.

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